

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 9, and 16 are amended herein to correct discovered informalities, without the introduction of new matter. Thus, claims 1-21 remain pending in this application. In view of the above amendments, reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant wishes to thank Primary Examiner Reagan for conducting the personal interview with Applicant's representative on November 2, 2005. Although no agreement was reached, the claims, as substantially submitted herewith, were discussed, and which are believed to be in condition for allowance, as discussed during the interview, and as further set forth herein. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 6,138,119 to *Hall et al.* was brought to the attention of the Examiner, as being applied in the corresponding Australian case, now allowed, and which present claims patentably distinguish over *Hall et al.*

Claims 1-21 were previously rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, as being unpatentable over claims 1-45 of U.S. Patent No. 6,714,921 to *Stefik et al.* As discussed during the interview, and in view of the present amendments, Applicant respectfully requests that if the Examiner determines that a double-patenting rejection is the only issue delaying allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned so that Applicant may consider filing a Terminal Disclaimer.

As further discussed during the interview, claims 1 and 16 and claims dependent therefrom, as submitted herewith, are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 101. Accordingly, no further rejection on such a basis is anticipated.

As further discussed during the interview, claim 9, as amended, is in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112. Accordingly, no further rejection on such a basis is anticipated.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If, however, the Examiner deems that any issue remains after considering this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney to expedite the prosecution and engage in a joint effort to work out a mutually satisfactory solution.

Respectfully submitted,

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